

## CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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George F. Milton, editor.  
Walter C. Johnson, business manager.

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In the excitement over the war, don't forget to eat the fly.

It seems so difficult for Russia to understand Germany's definition of peace.

It has been remarked upon that after all, Lloyd George didn't tell them very much.

That follow-up drive may be forthcoming, but it is apparently in no hurry to precipitate itself.

The farmers of East Tennessee will meet tomorrow at Knoxville which is a good farming community.

Hindenburg has unquestionably made gains. By crowding somewhat he has found room to bury his dead.

Lloyd George is everywhere recognized as a resourceful fighter, but the Irish problem gives pause to the best of them.

London newspapers are beginning to manifest a tardy recognition of the fact that America is doing its bit in man fashion.

If Italy can hold the lines at home and furnish 250,000 men for Gen. Foch's reserves in France, that won't be half bad.

War profiteers are probably also of opinion that it is too late in the season to undertake any war revenue legislation.

That man Mix, who is apparently connected with that airplane controversy, seems to have lived up to his name, all right.

A news item states that American muskrats, which have invaded Saxony and Bavaria, are making war on the Hun fish ponds.

Lord Curzon is one of those pessimistic souls who is expecting all the time that the situation will become more desperate still.

Jay E. House declares that Champ Clark "backed up" after consulting his wife, but incidentally admits that that is what most of us do.

Grocers' convention pledges loyalty.—Headline. The prices charged to consumers, however, will indicate how well the pledge is being kept.

Congress is apparently suffering from that tired feeling. Members would also like to get home and see what the folks think about it.

We rather than an exchange editorial that a dollar is about as hard as ever to get, and then won't buy more than half as much when you get it.

It is announced that food wastage at the camps is now a thing of the past. It had been rumored there has heretofore been more or less of this waste.

A woman defeated her husband for town treasurer in one of the small towns of New York. That is also the usual result of a contest for family treasurer.

Chattanooga admirers will learn with pleasure that Miss Katherine Stinson has been commissioned and sworn in as one of Uncle Sam's aerial mail carriers.

Another one of Atty.-Gen. Gregory's surprising statements was that not a single fire had been definitely traced to enemy agents in this country since we entered the war.

It hardly seems proper that the Maurice incident should be closed without some sort of deliverance on the general topic of r and robins from Oyster Bay.

American gold has been made legal tender in certain Mexican states. Plenty of other states would do the same thing if they could get some of it that way.

It is one of the most natural things in the world for one grafter to squal if he thinks the others are getting all of the swag, of which he considers himself entitled to a share.

The Jacksonville Times-Union promises that if somebody will furnish the money to build sugar factories Florida will raise enough cane—not calm—to supply the shortage.

Intelligence that the south polar ice cap is gradually receding may suggest a location for allotting to the kaiser his place in the sun. Really, the ice itself would be no drawback.

## DAY OF HUMILIATION.

In accordance with a resolution of congress, adopted on April 2, the president was requested to recommend a day of "public humiliation, prayer and fasting" for the safety and welfare of our cause, and a speedy restoration of honorable and lasting peace.

The president has fixed May 30, Memorial day, for this occasion.

The president in proclaiming the solemn period of prayer and fasting used well-chosen words. He exhorts his fellow-citizens of all faiths and creeds to assemble on that day in their several places of worship and in their homes to pray Almighty God that He may forgive our sins and shortcomings as a people and purify our hearts to see and love the truth, to accept and defend all things that are just and right, and to propose only those righteous acts and judgments which are in conformity with His will. Thus we are to approach the Great White Throne in due humility and in repentance for our misdoings whose remembrance is grievous unto us, whose burden is intolerable.

Noble as is the mission of our great country at this time in behalf of the down-trodden of the world, it is well that the president stress humility as a duty of the hour and careful searching of the heart lest we assume the attitude of the Pharisee. Could all the world be brought to its knees how much sooner might the reign of justice and democracy be re-established.

The president calls on us to beseech the Lord "that He will give those who take counsel on our behalf in these days of dark struggle and perplexity, and steadfastness to our people to make sacrifice to the utmost in support of what is just and true."

As we have entered on this just course let us keep it free from all that might question our claims or weaken our position before the world.

There are "perplexities" and we need to bring our minds into a frame to consider all these well.

And the peace which we shall seek he describes as "the peace in which men's hearts can be at rest because it is founded upon mercy, justice and good will."

Those are the qualities of the peace which will satisfy the soul of America. Not the peace of vindictiveness and revenge, but the peace of "justice and mercy," bringing the era of "good-will" among men, which must be attained else the world will continue to devote its energies to war, until civilization has been pulled down into another Dark Age.

Whenever the president utters sentiments about the war or about peace he places before Americans ideals which arouse their greatest sympathy and enthusiasm. We may only regret that in the interim between his utterances some things are said in congress and in the newspapers and by the speakers who go before the people, which place our war ideals on a plane below those which are outlined in the White House.

Let us more and more emulate the example of the silent man who is our leader, and as we follow him we shall approach more clearly to the complete victory which shall be not only a military victory, but in the fullest sense a moral victory as well, and this will have its permanent effect in good to the world.

## NOBODY RUNNING.

Says the Sparta Examiner:

"White county may not have representation in the next general assembly, as there appears to be no one desirous of the honors. The salary, alone, certainly will not pay a legislator's expenses, his loss of time from his business not considered. But, don't we need a new constitution?"

We believe that the Examiner's statement that "the salary alone certainly will not pay a legislator's expense," is rather extreme, but the compensation is, of course, practically nil. A representative who has the time to spare can live on his pay, but cannot thereby add much to his bank account.

Tennessee does, indeed, need a new constitution. The present provision under which the legislature operates is not, however, the only one in need of revision. It is not the most important defect to be remedied, though it very much needs modernizing. It seems strange when we reflect upon the almost unanimous conclusion of those who study the matter that proposals to rewrite our organic charter should be defeated with such painful regularity.

This year, of all others, the interests of the state demand the election of good men to the legislature. Not profiteers or those looking for fat jobs, but competent men who are willing to make the contribution as a public service. There ought to be volunteers for this important though unremunerative work. However, the very men needed are often modest about offering their services. In that event, the people should make a draft upon them.

The reform which the Examiner thinks necessary and any other practical reform can only be accomplished by the efforts of intelligent, patriotic men. One of the candidates for governor has suggested that two or three slight constitutional changes might be effected through amendments submitted which would be of great value. How very important that suitable men be chosen to frame such amendments.

We trust that the Examiner may yet be able to persuade some White county citizen of requisite ability to undertake the important but thankless task of representing his people in the legislature. We are sure the county has several of them. And some one of them will be willing if shown that he can perform a useful public service.

Gov. Whitman planned the re-election of himself and associates en bloc, on the theory that it is not wise to swap horses while crossing the stream. But his attorney-general refuses to run again.

## GEN. LEE'S POSITION.

A daughter of Gen. Robert E. Lee, Miss Mary Custis Lee, has made a statement that no member of the Lee family was not heart and soul with the south during the Civil war. This in reply to some foolish report which had been circulated. Gen. Lee, she says, like most of the southern officers educated in the regular army at the time of the Civil war, was opposed to secession. But the day after Virginia seceded he went to Richmond and offered his services. All the family were in sympathy with him. She does not state—which was a fact—that he had been offered the highest command in the federal army if he had remained with the Union. Gen. Lee became par excellence the type of southern chivalry during that war. He never indulged in bitter expressions toward his opponents. "Those people" was as far as he ever went in referring to them. His famous orders with regard to the sacredness of private property and the conduct of soldiers when his army was invading Pennsylvania are models for the humane soldier.

All through the south was a strong party which, before the step was taken, opposed secession. In Georgia, Alexander H. Stephens, vice-president of the Confederacy, while he argued for secession as a right, had opposed it as a policy. Gov. Herschel V. Johnson was another. In Tennessee, at Lebanon, is a statue to Robert Hatton, whose eloquent voice was heard all over the state against that policy, but he served the south. John Bell, on the platform, "The Union and the Constitution," won the electoral votes of Tennessee in 1860, but the state gave 120,000 men to the Confederacy. It has been characteristic of Americans always to discuss their public questions, differ and then support the majority, and in our wars some of the bravest deeds have been by men like Robert E. Lee, who were conservative in their views on public questions.

## THE UBQUITOUS PROFITEER.

The job of holding in check the war profiteers is conceded by Capper's Weekly to be strenuous. Head them off in one instance and they immediately bob up serenely somewhere else. Indeed, there seems to be a sort of community of interest to counter-balance in some way every piecemeal advantage obtained by the consumer.

When the people were asked to use substitutes in order that the armies might have flour, substitutes immediately went soaring. Price increases of from 30 to 60 per cent. were noted almost immediately, and the Weekly complains that corn meal—its time-honored democratic constituent—went over the top with an increase of 77 per cent. and began to take on airs accordingly.

Instancing the leather industry, the Weekly declares: "A year ago green hides were 20 cents a pound and a harness for a farmer's team cost \$55. Now hides sell for 3 cents and the price of a harness is \$70!" It is insisted that the leather business should be put under license, and that every form of food profiteering should be put under the same system of control or supervision.

Moreover, the Weekly demands that the government exercise its power of control by penalizing the conspicuous offenders, and asserts that "nothing less than a vigorous prosecution of the profiteers amounts to a whoop."

It is declared that the government possesses the power and should not hesitate to use it.

## SOME WAR FIGURES.

The Miami Metropolis has been collecting and compiling some figures on the war's requirements. Here is a batch which it published a few days ago:

"The United States quartermaster recently purchased 61,000,000 pounds of prunes and dried beans and 273,000,000 cans of tomatoes, condensed milk and baked beans. Other purchases include 40,000,000 yards of mosquito bar, 75,000,000 yards of olive drab, 20,000,000 woolen blankets, 31,000,000 pairs of woolen drawers, 80,000,000 pairs of heavy stockings, 11,000,000 wool coats."

These figures explain the necessity for the enormous appropriations for war purposes. They are by no means exhaustive. They make it easier to understand why, in some instances, production has not kept up with the rapidity of demand. The needs to be met and supplied were unparalleled in the world's history.

Some indication is also furnished by the above purchases of the care which Uncle Sam is exercising in providing for the wants of his fighters in the field. Meatless, wheatless, sweetless and heatless days may be required of the folks at home, even woolless clothing, but nothing less than the best is good enough for the boys in khaki.

It does not require a very fertile imagination to understand that life in the trenches is not one grand, sweet song—that with every comfort and facility which human ingenuity can provide, it is still a harrowing experience. Knowledge that our own boys are representing us "over there" makes it all the easier to endure the slight privations for their sake. It is a small offering, at best.

## DR. CLARK GOES ABROAD.

In parting with Dr. W. J. Leaning Clark even temporarily, not only St. Paul's parish, but the citizenship of Chattanooga generally, will feel the most sincere regret. Not only as a rector, but as a leader in all the war service activities, he has won popularity, and his place cannot be filled. As chaplain at Camp Forrest his influence among the soldiers encamped has been far-reaching. He leaves a large field for a greater one. Service abroad has called him hither. He goes as chaplain among the Red Cross workers. It is an opportunity for service, and his many friends here are glad that it came, so that he could use his great talents where they will be of more benefit to the cause.

## THE CIRCUIT RIDER GONE.

It was Corra Harris's book, "The Circuit Rider's Wife," which, according to the Charlotte Observer, leavened opinion among Southern Methodists until they did away with itinerancy.

We don't know whether that was the case or not, although the Tennessee woman wrote an intensely human story. Probably the change was made as a result of an evolution of the times. Some years ago the Methodist Episcopal church took similar action. However it has come about, it is a radical departure from the old times. The bishop and his cabinet will no longer have the powerful influence formerly wielded.

Itinerancy has had a history which will not permit it to be forgotten. The circuit rider with his saddle bags was a frontiersman of the advancing Faith. He never sought this world's goods, and precious little attached to him. There was nothing which appealed to earthly ambition in his profession. The man who accepted it took up a cross. Many of them had vision. They were spiritual-minded men who offered their bodies as a living sacrifice. They didn't preach to numerous congregations. They were not highly learned or eloquent, depending on a sort of religious fervor, which took the place of eloquence. But from the days of Bishop Asbury—indeed from the period of John Wesley—the circuit rider was venerated by those to whom he ministered.

When they were sent to a charge they usually spoke out on local conditions. Applied morality was part of their preaching. The sinner whose deeds stood out before the community wasn't allowed then to sit comfortably in the "Amen" corner.

The world do move. It's going to be with the Methodist congregations like it is with those of a good many other denominations now. The pulpit and the pew must be in pretty close accord, else, like Dickens' Little Joe, there will come a suggestion to "move on."

We presume this will conduce to greater culture; certainly to increased comfort for the minister, and, at any rate, a church government which sometimes tends to autocracy will be weakened.

But there were many good features of itinerancy which will be missed. We were always pretty sure to have some of these pastors on occasion "call a spade a spade." They didn't every time hit the mark, but they were always willing to take a shot—and, after all, such outspoken expressions are wholesome.

## WHY BE A TORY?

Why should the senators from Massachusetts persist in a tory attitude on the woman suffrage question? It amounts to torism to vote against the suffrage amendment to the federal constitution now before the senate. Great Britain has granted the parliamentary franchise to women. In Canada certain classes of women were allowed by law to vote for members of the house of commons in the recent general elections. In Australia women vote. In a large number of states in the American Union there is no longer the least discrimination against women as compared with men. Even in New York state women are voters in every sort of election. While the senate at Washington hesitates over the federal amendment, one reads in the anti-suffrage New York Times a reminder to women that "on May 25, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., the women voters of New York will have the privilege of enrolling, so that they can vote in the September primaries."—Springfield Republican.

This is from one of the ablest edited newspapers in the United States. Why should one of our Tennessee senators take this tory position, also? In some respects Senator Shields has measured up to the requirements of a senator. But in his attitude toward this great reform he has shown himself inclined to a conservatism which is blind to all that is happening in the world today.

Why shall we imitate Prussia? Even the kaiser is at the point of dissolving the Prussian diet and summoning another so as to give a broader suffrage of men. Great Britain, in the midst of the war, not only has made suffrage practically universal among men, but has extended parliamentary suffrage to women. They already voted in local elections.

Let no senator deceive himself that this issue is unimportant and the people not interested in it. Don't the southern democrats know that senators like Lodge and Meeks, from Massachusetts, would never have joined with them in opposing it if there was any danger that its adoption would make the south poppycock? That argument is purely poppycock.

## AFRAID WAR WOULD BE ABOLISHED.

Says the San Francisco Bulletin:

Despite the clearness of Mr. Wilson's announcements upon the subject there is still some discussion as to America's objects in the war. Some stern practical men, like Mr. Roosevelt, can't stand the thought that we are in for purely altruistic reasons; there is not enough blood and raw bones about the idea to suit them. Perhaps they are a little afraid that the altruism which we put into this war might lead, in time, to the abolition of war and the warlike virtues."

How true this is. It is not necessary that the president should restate our war aims. He may occasionally without making a mistake, however, just reiterate to such people that we haven't changed them in the slightest degree.

An exchange mentions as possibilities under the Overman bill the sending of Secretary Lansing as ambassador to France, the promotion of Newton D. Baker to be secretary of state and the appointment of Edward R.

## OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

By Condo



## THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

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The chronicles of the Jarr family record the home events of the morning and evening mostly, for Mr. Jarr takes his business man's lunch downtown.

He is usually late for both breakfast and supper, and that makes talk.

Being late for supper makes the most talk, for though he be late for breakfast, Mrs. Jarr knows where he is. In fact, Mrs. Jarr, as she is, she is the original discoverer of Saving Daylight. She always announces, and angrily, to Mr. Jarr that it is an hour later than it really is every morning when the man won't get up.

Moving the time thus ahead was not for the purpose of saving daylight—it was to save Mr. Jarr's job. "For," as Mrs. Jarr will tell you, "if I didn't tell that man it was after 8 when it's nearly 7, he'd never get up in time to be at his office!"

It is because Mr. Jarr always falls in late to mess, as we say in the army, that Mrs. Jarr first got hold of all the first mail delivery every morning, and in the course of a more or less happy life she has come to believe the mail is solely for her, to be read and consumed before Mr. Jarr gets a peak at even a circular.

This also goes for the morning paper. Even when Mr. Jarr, up early for him, comes to the table, when Gertrude, the maid, brings up the morning mail, Mrs. Jarr gets it first.

If he hasn't been out late the night before playing penoche with Sam Young or if he isn't otherwise reported for punishment, Mrs. Jarr will tell him who her letters are from, especially if they are from people Mr. Jarr doesn't like or isn't interested in.

"Don't look so inquisitive," remarked Mrs. Jarr this morning. "It's only a letter from Mrs. Blodger, of Philadelphia. Philadelphia went away over its quota, she says."

"To Hail the Kaiser We Couched Our Mums!" remarked Mr. Jarr, who had strained his brain inventing liberty loan slogans during the last drive. "Yes, a letter from Mrs. Blodger," repeated Mrs. Jarr. She made this remark in the same tone that an actor in melodrama says, "Hail! A billet-doux from the baroness!"

Mrs. Jarr moved back to keep the paper out of Mr. Jarr's grasp, keeping her elbow on the rest of the mail she had not yet looked over, and gave as Mr. Jarr would have expressed it, "another slant" at Mrs. Blodger's missive. It would have been a correct definition, for Mrs. Jarr was holding up the letter at an angle in order to read what Mrs. Blodger had written around the edges. Then she dipped to the bottom of the last sheet to read the postscript, for there's where the reason for writing the letter may be found, the main body of a lady's epistle being generally camouflage concerning illness, death, operations, hard luck and other cheerful tidings to mask the real purpose of the letter.

"Yes," said Mrs. Jarr, "I might have known it! Irene Kackeberry expects to come to see us. Gladys, too, most likely. Ever since their mother married the fellow Bernard Blodger, young enough to be her son, those girls make their mother's life so miserable she's glad when they go visiting. Mrs. Blodger says that Irene is all run down with war work. She's tired her mother out, and simply because her mother told her she should have consulted her first—for Mrs. Blodger is getting gray and was thinking of tinting her own hair auburn—Irene is so sullen and snappish that there is no living with her!"

"Ah, suburn hair and angry attitude!" remarked Mr. Jarr; "and she thinks she is doing Red Cross work."

"That isn't funny," said Mrs. Jarr coldly. "Irene hasn't gone in for Red Cross work. She has been busy at the cantons for soldiers and sailors in Philadelphia, and the more mature women think young girls are too frivolous for such social activities."

"Yes," replied Mr. Jarr, "I hear most of the soldiers and sailor boys complain about being mothered and old-maided too much."

that he invariably achieved his purpose," said Mr. Sullivan. "His position afforded him many facilities for going out of the camp under military guard to attend to matters affecting our interests, and so he was able to see a lot of what was happening in Germany. His father and his rooming of the internal situation represent exactly the state of affairs which prevailed when I left last month."

"Germany is like an egg drained dry with only the shell remaining," he made a show. The deterioration in the appearance and spirit of the people during the last twelve months has been relentless and sure. Their faces are pinched and thin, and their only desire is to get the war over, no matter how it ends or what happens afterwards. For the women, frankly, I am not sorry. They are even more bitter and cruel than the men in their hatred of Britain."

"Every political party in Germany is violently in favor of stopping the war at once except what are called the 'fire-eating' party. They are small, but at present they possess the pistol to hold at the heads of the others and force a continuance of the war. If, however, the big German offensive fails, I am convinced that the war will end by the force of internal stress, which, with real starvation prevailing, has reached a stage beyond which human endurance cannot go."

## THE GREAT HUN BLUFF: MORE

## LIGHT FROM INSIDE GERMANY

(London Daily Mail of April 12.)

The articles by Mr. Ernest Lionel Pyke on the internal condition of Germany, which have attracted world-wide attention, have been discussed by Mr. Thomas Sullivan, an ex-champion of New Zealand and Britain, who was released from Ruhleben camp last month, having been interned since the beginning of the war.

Mr. Sullivan, a tall, powerfully built man of 50, who established a successful business in London at the end of his rowing career, paid a warm tribute to the tact with which Mr. Pyke dealt with an act in melodrama, but said that of the link between the German military authorities and the interned British.

"He never gave way on any question where our rights were concerned, and managed everything so skillfully."

Stettinius to be secretary of war.

In deciding to await the rounding out of the American organization in Europe, it may be that our allies also thought it well to have hostilities at Washington out of the way before inaugurating the final stroke.

Beside the merits of the proposition to entirely eliminate the teaching of the German language from the schools, the substitution of Spanish at this particular time appears to be the appropriate and practical procedure.

A national uprising is threatened in Switzerland against increasing the price of milk from 7 cents to 9 cents a quart. It might serve to quiet the kickers if they could be fed for a while on American milk at 20 cents a quart.

But she didn't or hadn't taken the letter from a silver savor from the liveried servant, for the edges from the envelope, extracted the folded note and spanked it open, as they always do on the stage and in the movies. Gertrude, the maid, never brought the mail in on a savor. And Mrs. Jarr never tore open an envelope—she ran a hairpin under the flap and slit it deftly.

"What else did she say besides the gratifying news that Philadelphia woke up?" asked Mr. Jarr, pretending to reach for the toast while he tried to get hold of the morning paper which Mrs. Jarr held under her arm while she acted as family postal inspector.

Mrs. Jarr moved back to keep the paper out of Mr. Jarr's grasp, keeping her elbow on the rest of the mail she had not yet looked over, and gave as Mr. Jarr would have expressed it, "another slant" at Mrs. Blodger's missive. It would have been a correct definition, for Mrs. Jarr was holding up the letter at an angle in order to read what Mrs. Blodger had written around the edges. Then she dipped to the bottom of the last sheet to read the postscript, for there's where the reason for writing the letter may be found, the main body of a lady's epistle being generally camouflage concerning illness, death, operations, hard luck and other cheerful tidings to mask the real purpose of the letter.

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## Our Cards on the Table.

The influences that made German opinion change fully were the war aims speeches of Lloyd George and President Wilson. They were not allowed to be published at once, but they crept into the papers bit by bit, and after a while the German people—sick of the war—were saying everywhere that the allies had put their cards on the table and the German government had not.

"Britons who think that food and other things are hard to get have no

idea what 'difficulty' means; judged by the German standard. This country is simply bristling with foodstuffs of every kind and all other necessities compared with Germany, where it is impossible to buy practically anything except potatoes and black bread that is as hard as iron even when new. The people make up soups and other dishes with scraps of vegetables, but private life is written on their countenances. Whether Britain would stand what disciplined Germany has stood for a year is a question that has not been put to the test. But Germany cannot stand much more; the whole country is on the verge of revolution from sheer desperation.

"Lundendorff is the brains of the 'fire-eaters' and the great bluffer of his people. He makes up the 'fireballs' and Hindenburg serves them out. We could tell for three months before the offensive began that it was coming. Our camp was parallel with the main railway line and only a stone's throw from it, and all the time we saw troop trains going through from east to west."

Mr. Pyke's Warning.

Following are extracts from Mr. Pyke's concluding article:

"There has been in Germany an increasing fear of the British soldier. He is no longer a mere sportsman. He no longer shows what they call 'side' to be fear by shaking hands with the Germans when he is taken prisoner. He is a barbarous fellow, is the Englishman" (including, of course, Scottish, Welsh, Irish, Canadian, Australian New Zealand and Cape soldiers). "He fights unfairly," was the complaint of a German soldier. They found that he would fight with his fist, a brick, a pickaxe, or a trench knife."

"I venture to say that through the British Tommies, the Canadians, and Australians, John Bull has asserted for himself a place in Germany which he never held before. Our toughest and most obstinate foe," they say, "their present attitude is that our soldiers are immensely courageous and dogged, our officers unscientific, our equipment perfect."

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"If the millions of people of the United States, the British empire, France, Italy and Japan decline to be bluffed by Germany, Germany can not win."

"If they allow themselves to be bluffed, which is inconceivable, then these islands will cease to be the home of free men and women. There might be a few years of sham peace, but the eventual result would be that we should be drilled and dominated by Germany."

## LIEUT. J. W. STARKEY

## WRITES TO PARENTS

Mud Only Knee-Deep in France and the Boys Go "Quack, Quack," and Laugh.

Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Starkey, of Chamberlain avenue, are getting letters frequently from their son, Lieut. Joseph W. Starkey, who is now with the Eighteenth company, Fifth regiment, United States Marines, "somewhere in France." He says he will cable and write every chance, but he has been very "busy" since early in March.

The following are excerpts from his letters:

"France, March 20.

"It is over two weeks now since mail reached us, none being sent to us in that time, but we will get it all in a bunch when we do get it. Never felt better in my life; eat more than the law allows. You would be surprised at the quality and quantity of our food. I have not spent a 'son' for anything but 'grub' for over a month. Am hoping for seven days' leave in about a month. It is past